

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1-4, 7-11, 14-20, 23-26, 28-34, 36-39, 41-43, 45-48 have been amended, and new claims 49-69 have been added. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-69 are pending and under consideration.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any informalities to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such informalities.

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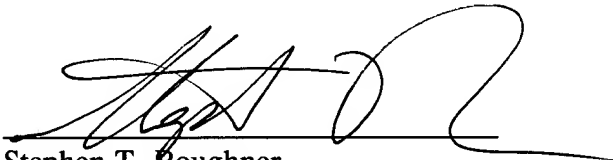
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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Preliminary Amendment,
please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,
STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: August 4, 2000

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